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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HOLD FORUM ON AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

NORMANGEE, TEXAS, February 17, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, State Director for Texas USDA Rural Development, announced today that a series of forums will be conducted to rural communities throughout the state of Texas. The forum is free to the public and speakers will provide information to all interested individuals and entities about the various housing, community, and business and industry programs available through USDA Rural Development.

The forum for Normangee will be held Saturday, March 5, 2005, 10:00 a.m., at Normangee Service Center, 231 West OSR, Normangee, Texas. The session will feature a presentation and discussion of all USDA Rural Development programs, in both direct and guaranteed lending opportunities, for rural utilities, community facilities, business and industry, single family housing and multi-family housing.

"USDA Rural Development is committed to making its programs and services available to all rural Texans, including individuals, small businesses, municipalities, community based organizations and traditionally underserved portions of the population. Through its support of sustainable development of communities, USDA Rural Development works to improve the quality of life for rural Texans," said Daniel.

Through the numerous programs offered by USDA Rural Development is committed to enhance the quality of life in rural communities by improving the flow of capital to businesses and addressing the essential needs of housing, water, education and health care.

There is no cost to attend and all interested individuals are invited. To learn more or to make reservations to attend the forum, please call USDA Rural Development in Huntsville, Texas, at (936) 291-1901, Ext. 4.

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